

## – Call for Conference Proposals –

### Europe's Role in the World: How the EU Is Seen by Other Global Players

International KFIBS Conference, Bonn, Germany, 3-4 February 2012



The Cologne Forum for International Relations and Security Policy (KFIBS), a registered association located in Bruehl (near Cologne), Germany, is hosting its international conference 'Europe's Role in the World: How the EU Is Seen by Other Global Players' to take place from 3 to 4 February 2012.

The increasing role the European Union (EU) plays in the world today is, at the same time, increasingly becoming a subject of discussion and analysis in the political and social sciences. Given that, until now, the political science mainstream has taken a predominantly Eurocentric perspective on Europe's role in the world, our conference aims to take a different direction and a more diverse approach to the topic. Thus, rather than focus on actor-centric concepts or images such as 'Europe as an Economic Power' or 'Europe as a Global and Military Actor', the conference aims to explore particularly non-European perceptions of Europe's role. Accordingly, the guiding questions to be discussed and analysed at the conference include:

- How is the EU perceived in Africa, Asia, Australia, Latin and North America?
- On the one hand, which expectations and hopes can be identified in the world's regions with regard to the growing influence of the EU?
- On the other hand, which are the areas that non-Europeans identify as critical topics and trends for their own regional development and their own political models with regard to the EU?

The KFIBS conference will commence on Friday, 3 February 2012 with an evening keynote speech. The conference will be organised into five regional panels, each of which will be divided into the following three thematic sub-panels:

- Foreign and Development Policy
- Economic Relations from a Political Economy Perspective
- Civil Society – Culture and Religion

There will be three panellists represented in each of these 15 sub-panels. Panel sessions will take place during Friday evening and from Saturday morning, with the conference ending Saturday evening. The working language will be English.

The KFIBS conference seeks to provide a forum for young researchers and academics from all over the world within the relevant disciplines and sub-disciplines, including political science, sociology, economics, international law, cultural studies, history, and international development studies. The conference will also offer a great opportunity for the exchange of different views

and ideas about the EU in an international and open-minded context. The international KFIBS conference will be followed by a printed conference volume.

We are especially looking for contributions that explore aspects often neglected or overlooked, both in the theoretical discussion of the EU's role in the world and its regional perceptions as well as in the policy-making domain.

Please submit proposals (250-500 words) to Mr Fabian Erwig ([fabian.erwig@kfibs.org](mailto:fabian.erwig@kfibs.org)) by 1 December 2011, midnight CET.

Further information on registration, accommodation, transport, etc., will be posted on the KFIBS web site [www.kfibs.org](http://www.kfibs.org) soon.

We look forward to receiving your proposals in the next few months.

Best regards,  
Fabian Erwig, BA, MA